



**WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

November 4, 2005

LOCATION: Department of Health
Town Center 1
101 Israel Road Southeast, Room 162
Tumwater, Washington 98501

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Weatherly, CDP, Chair
Cathy Doran, CDP
Patricia Ike, CDP
Jean Phillips, DASA Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Janice Boden, Program Manager
Robert Nicoloff, Executive Director
Sherry Wolverton, Program Assistant
Diane Young, Deputy Executive Director
Tammy Benson, Disciplinary Manager
Kitty Slater, Credentialing Manager
Hyon Yi, Program Representative

AAG PRESENT:

Geoff Hymans, Assistant Attorney General, Committee Advisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Paul Weatherly, Chair, announced that because a quorum of the Committee was not present, no decisions would be made by the Committee at today's meeting. Instead, the meeting would be devoted exclusively to informal discussions and brainstorming for possible future activities to be considered by the Advisory Committee at the next meeting in March.

2. COMMITTEE MEMBER TRAINING

- 2.1 Committee's Purpose, Relationship To The Department of Health, and Flow Of Communication – Discussion. This item was deferred to the March meeting when it could be presented to the full Committee.
- 2.2. Rulemaking Process – Discussion. Janice Boden presented an overview of rule making process, including the purpose, phases, and timelines for completion of rules. In order to consider the impact of rules changes, and to provide the public with sufficient opportunity to provide input and suggestions regarding proposed rules, the rules process can sometimes take many months. However, this approach helps to ensure that requirements and standards adopted are reasonable and will benefit public protection.

3. EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

Janice Boden indicated that the program would be soon filing documents to initiate a rules process to review and consider improvements to the education and experience requirements for Chemical Dependency Professionals. The goal of the rules is to insure that individuals in training to become CDPs receive adequate education in core competencies and also receive quality supervision as interns.

Plans are in the process to hold several public forums in February to discuss these issues and to solicit concepts and ideas that can provide a foundation for the drafting of improved rules. These forums will be held in Seattle and Moses Lake. A notice for the forums will be drafted and distributed to all organizations on the interested parties list, and also through the Department of Health Listserv. Jean Phillips indicated that she would recommend that DASA send a follow-up notice as well to encourage the attendance of representatives of organizations that employ CDPs at the forums.

4. LICENSURE WITHOUT EXAMINATION

Assistant Attorney General Geoff Hymans discussed the laws that may permit the Secretary of Health to adopt rules related to recognizing CDP licenses issued in another state. A key element for recognition is that the regulatory standards in the other state must be “substantially equivalent” to those in Washington. A subcommittee had reviewed standards in other states, using material in National Review Of State Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program and Certification Standards For Substance Abuse Counselors And Prevention Professionals published by the US Department of Health and Human Services, and will be prepared to provide recommendations at the next meeting regarding which states should be recognized in Washington. Given the shortage of CDPs in our state, this recognition may greatly assist organizations in recruiting individuals from out of state.

5. 2006 MEETING DATES

The Committee set their meeting dates for 2006. The dates are April 24th, June 16th, September 8th, and December 1st. All meetings will be held at the Department of Health facility in Kent.

6. PROGRAM REPORTS / PROBLEMS, ISSUES, STRATEGIES RELATED TO CREDENTIALING

Janice Boden presented the latest budget report of the CDP program. The program continues to operate within the established allotments.

Diane Young and Hyon Yi presented information, statistics, and trends regarding the credentialing of CDPs. Over fifty new CDP licenses were issued during the months of August, September, and October, 2005. Ms Young discussed the process of conducting criminal background checks on applicants. The time necessary to complete the review and made a determination on the qualifications of the applicant can be greatly reduced if the applicant provides documents regarding their background early in the process. The standards and procedures followed in the CDP program related to criminal background decisions is the same as the standards used in all health professions.

Tammy Benson provided an update and overview on disciplinary activity related to CDPs. To illustrate the process of investigating disciplinary cases, Ms Benson provided copies of detailed activity reports on several cases. Members indicated that they found the examples to be quite helpful in providing a better understanding how case investigations and reviews can take much time.

Members and staff anticipate that the credentialing and background review processes will likely be discussed by attendees at the upcoming forums because these are areas that continue to be of concern to CDP applicants and CDP employers.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Signature on file

Robert J. Nicoloff, Executive Director
Chemical Dependency Advisory Committee

Signature on file

Paul Weatherly, Chair
Chemical Dependency Advisory Committee